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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/746,199 | 12/26/2000 | Mark R. Hinds | 91436-298 | 1324 |

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EXAMINER

BONZO, BRYCE P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2114

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/746,199

Applicant(s)

HINDS ET AL.

Examiner

Bryce P Bonzo

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2114

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12/26/00 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

NON-FINAL OFFICIAL ACTION

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-14 are pending.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 USC §02.

Rejections under 35 USC §102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meinema (United States Patent No. 4,858,615).

As per claim 1, Meinema discloses:

at least one passive component (Figure 6); and

an identification module for storing component information relating to said at least one passive component (column 6, lines 22-26).

As per claim 2, Meinema discloses:

wherein the component information comprises component (type number: column 6, lines 22-46), component specifications (service life: column 6, lines 22-46),

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component calibration data (column 6, lines 22-46: these passages clearly the define the other forms of data as calibration data clearly as they reduce error and eliminate user calibration).

As per claim 3, Meinema discloses:

a common interface for said at least one passive component and aid identification module (Figure 8, item 40).

As per claim 4, Meinema discloses:

wherein said interface comprises optical or electrical terminals for said at least one passive component and electrical terminals for said identification module (column 6, lines 44-53; Figure 8, item 40).

As per claim 5, Meinema discloses:

wherein the identification module comprises a non-volatile memory (column 6, lines 23-25).

As per claim 10, Meinema discloses:

a non-volatile memory storing specifications for a passive component (column 6, lines 22-26);

a tester for detecting signals at an input and an output of said passive component (column 5, lines 26-32); and

a processor operatively associated with said non-volatile memory and said tester for monitoring proper performance of said passive component (column 5, lines 34-43 and 59-62).

As per claim 11, Meinema discloses:

storing component information for said passive component in a non-volatile memory (column 5, lines 26-33); and

installing said non-volatile memory in a sub-system incorporating said passive component (column 5, lines 36-37).

As per claim 12, Meinema discloses:

configuring a common interface for said passive component and said non-volatile memory (Figure 5, item 38).

Claims 1, 2, 5-9 and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Goldring (United States Patent No. 4,684,245).

As per claim 1, Goldring discloses:

at least one passive component (column 3, line 62 through column 4, line 16);
and

an identification module for storing component information relating to said at least one passive component (column 4, lines 40-57).

As per claim 2, Goldring discloses:

wherein the component information comprises component (column 5, line 45 through column 6, line 24), component specifications (column 5, line 45 through column 6, line 24), component calibration data (column 6, line 2 "useful data").

As per claim 5, Goldring discloses:

wherein said identification module comprises a non-volatile memory (column 4, lines 40-57).

As per claim 6, Goldring discloses:

a tester interconnected with said at least one passive component (column 5, lines 45-69); and

a processor interconnected with said memory and with said tester (column 4, lines 25-26).

As per claim 7, Goldring discloses:

wherein said non-volatile memory comprises a read-only memory (column 4, lines 40-57).

As per claim 8, Goldring discloses:

wherein said identification further comprises a second memory, said second memory being a read-write memory (column 4, lines 40-57 and column 6, lines 1-27).

As per claim 9, Goldring discloses:

wherein said second memory stores historical performance information relating to at least one passive component (column 6, lines 1-24).

As per claim 13, Goldring discloses:

retrieving specification information for said passive component from non-volatile memory installed in a sub-system incorporating said passive component (column 6, line 7-10);

sampling an input signal to and an output from said passive component;
determining performance characteristics for said passive component based on said sampling (column 6, lines 7-10);

comparing said performance characteristics with said retrieved specification information (column 6, lines 7-10).

As per claim 14, Goldring discloses:

based on said comparing, selectively generating a warning (column 6, lines 19-24).

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bryce P Bonzo whose telephone number is (703) 305-4834. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (703) 305-9713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Bryce P Bonzo
Examiner
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